

FOURTH SENATE DISTRICT
REPRESENTING THE COUNTIES OF:
COLUSA, GLENN, SHASTA, SISKIYOU,
SOLANO (EXCEPT VALLEJO), SUTTER,
TEHAMA, TRINITY, YOLO;
PORTIONS OF BUTTE AND
SACRAMENTO

48-263
OCT 02 1998

California State Senate

SENATOR
K. MAURICE JOHANNESSEN
FOURTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
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FINANCE, INVESTMENT &
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WILDLIFE
VETERANS AFFAIRS,
CHAIR



October 1, 1998

Lester Snow, Executive Director
CALFED Bay-Delta Progra
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1155
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Director Snow:

I ask that CALFED temporarily delay the upcoming release of the preferred alternative, until CALFED officials can provide the public with more information regarding impacts to local regions. The October 9 release date is premature and should be postponed until more data is made available to the public.

Many state and federal agencies have developed their own plans and/or programs that contain goals and objectives very similar to those of CALFED. These proposals, in various degrees, focus on land acquisition, water resources, wetland and riparian habitat restoration and private land use restrictions. These plans are products of the agencies participating in the CALFED Program. The cumulative impacts need to be detailed and their objectives thoroughly discussed in a comprehensible manner. Currently, the CALFED EIR lacks necessary information allowing the public to assess the total impacts of the Program on their respective regions. Failure to include this information makes it impossible for CALFED to credibly comply with the solution principle of "no redirected impacts."

CALFED also needs to identify the location of state and federally owned land, classified by type of habitat. This information will allow local governments to evaluate the total loss of tax revenues and will give CALFED a basis for developing mitigation measures to offset any losses.

The CALFED Program will convert thousands of acres of habitat wetlands, putting neighboring property owners at risk without proper safeguards. In turn, CALFED must develop "safe harbor" regulations to protect neighboring property owners from potential incidental takings of endangered or threatened species.

PLEASE REPLY TO:

☒ STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
(916) 445-3353

☐ 410 HEMSTED DRIVE
SUITE 200
REDDING, CA 96002
(916) 224-4706

☐ 2967 DAVISON COURT
SUITE A-1
COLUSA, CA 95932
(916) 458-4161

☐ 1170 NORTH LINCOLN STREET
SUITE 106
DIXON, CA 95620
(916) 678-3195

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As you are aware, the Department Water Resources' Bulletin 160-98 projects severe water shortages by the year 2020. The Refuge Water Supply Interagency Coordinated Program Task Force Report indicates that wetland habitats will consume nearly twice as much water as irrigated crop land. If this assessment is accurate, CALFED must specifically identify how and from where this additional water will be taken.

If these deficiencies are not fully addressed in the upcoming "preferred" alternative, it should not be released until which time thorough analyses of these topics are included.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Maurice Johannessen", followed by a horizontal line.

K. MAURICE JOHANNESSEN
Senator, Fourth District

cc: Governor Pete Wilson
Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt
Secretary, California Resources Agency, Douglas P. Wheeler
Members of the Senate Select Committee on CALFED